GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:214
ANSWERED ON:13.08.2007
JOINT NAVAL EXERCISE IN BAY OF BENGAL
Das Gupta Shri Gurudas;Jogi Shri Ajit;Reddy Shri Suravaram Sudhakar

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a joint Naval exercise has been planned by India, US, Japan, Australia and Singapore in the Bay of Bengal in September, 2007;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of countries with which joint military exercises have been conducted by the Government so far;

(d) the details of such proposed exercises in the coming years; and

(e) the aims and objectives behind conducting such joint military exercises?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) & (b): A joint naval exercise by the Indian Navy, with the navies of USA, Australia, Singapore and Japan, is planned to be held in Bay of Bengal during September, 2007.

(c) Indian forces conduct joint exercises with forces of other countries from time to time. Some of the countries with whom exercises have been conducted in past include USA, UK, Russia, France, Oman, Singapore, Japan, Sri Lanka, Maldives etc.

(d) Some of the countries with whom exercises are proposed to be held are USA, Russia, France and Singapore etc.

(e) The objective of conducting such joint exercises is to promote mutual cooperation, and gain from the experience of other forces especially in the field of advance technology available with them. It also facilitates inter-operability in times of need in situations like disaster management, etc.